

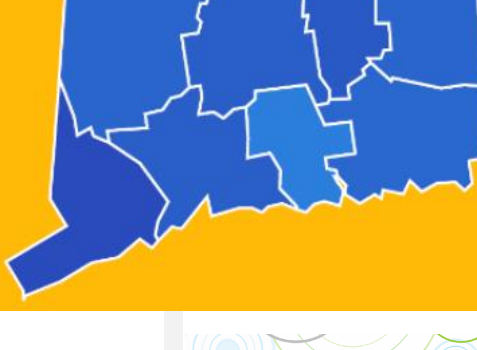
# Actions & Impact

## The Sustainable CT Newsletter



[Find Our Workshops & Coffee Hours on the Sustainable CT YouTube Channel](#)

### Social Change Amplifier Fund



### New Funding Opportunity for Community Organizers

**Sustainable CT and Supporting Organizing Work-CT announce the creation of the Social Change Amplifier Fund**

Supporting Organizing Work-CT (SOW-CT) has established the Social Change Amplifier Fund within [Sustainable CT's Community Match Fund](#) to dedicate matching funds to projects led by Black, Latinx, Multiracial, Indigenous and other POC community organizers and organizations.

Sustainable CT will match up to \$7,500 in one-to-one dollars from the Social Change Amplifier Fund. Unlike traditional grant programs, Sustainable CT offers a quick, simple application process (starting with a conversation) with no deadlines, no lengthy review period, and minimal reporting requirements. Sustainable CT helps applicants create a project description on their crowdfunding platform, provides a crowdfunding coach, and spreads the word about active projects to help bring in support.

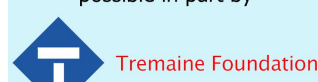
[\[READ the FULL PRESS RELEASE\]](#)



### Coming Soon: the IMPACT, a Sustainable CT Podcast

**Scheduled to debut March 15**, the IMPACT, a Sustainable CT podcast, will feature the best content drawn from our workshops, webinars and Coffee Hours. We'll also be bringing you occasional interviews with Very Interesting & Helpful People. Be sure to look for it wherever you get your podcasts.

Sustainable CT and Actions & Impact are made possible in part by



The Tremaine Foundation seeks and funds innovative projects that advance solutions to basic and enduring problems

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### Representation Matters: Are You Ready To Run For State Office?

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is hosting a **free** two-day training to teach people of color the fundamentals to run for state office and discuss the benefits of civic participation. The training sessions will be held on **Saturdays, March 12 and 19**.

[\[REGISTER and LEARN MORE\]](#)



### Put Your Road On A Diet: Complete Streets Strategies In Road Reconfiguration

A "road diet," or road reconfiguration, is a type of roadway project that can improve safety for all users by reducing crash severity, reducing vehicle speeds, shortening pedestrian crossing distances, and creating space for bikeways, among other benefits. This proven safety countermeasure is a tool that can be used as a part of your **Complete Streets strategies**. This workshop will discuss the benefits of road diets and evaluate the right candidates for this approach. **Virtual webinar March 16, 9am - 3pm**.

[\[REGISTER and LEARN MORE\]](#)

### Community Match Fund Corner



### Spring Free - Community Art Project

Middletown is helping children develop a sense of accomplishment and community pride as they create an archive of Local Legend stories and turn them into street art.

Elementary school kids will collect the life-stories of people who have made (or are making!) an impact on and around Spring Street in Middletown, Connecticut, where their school is situated. While interviewing these neighborhood heroes, the kids will take profile photos. On a Spring day, Spring Street will be closed for an epic celebration where the students adorn the new bike safety lanes around their school with colorful painted interpretations of the portraits they photographed.

[\[READ ALL ABOUT IT\]](#)

...  
[Learn more about the Sustainable CT Community Match Fund.](#)

Have an idea to make your community more sustainable, equitable, and vibrant? [Contact our Community Outreach Manager.](#)



### Community Forestry Small Grants Program Now Accepting Applications

The Connecticut Urban Forest Council is excited to offer groups in Connecticut the opportunity to apply for an urban forestry grant from the Council. Grants range from \$1,500 to \$2,000, and **applications are due at 4:30 pm on March 31, 2022**.

[\[FIND OUT MORE\]](#)

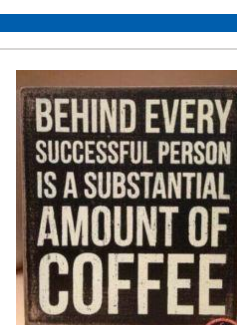


### Climate Leadership: Navigating Connecticut's New Electric Vehicle & Energy Storage Programs

The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) will give presentations on Connecticut's new [Electric Vehicle Charging](#) and [Energy Storage Solutions](#) programs that launched on Jan. 1, 2022. The presentations will touch on program summaries, objectives, deployment targets, residential and non-residential incentives, performance-based incentives, how to engage with the Authority, and next steps, among other topics. Speakers: Marissa Paslick Gillett - PURA Chairman; Joshua Ryor - PURA's Director of Utility Programs and Initiatives; and Stefanie Keohane - Supervisor of PURA's Clean and Affordable Energy Unit. Virtual event: **March 31, 9am - 10:30am**.

[\[REGISTER and LEARN MORE\]](#)

Our free technical assistance webinars are open to all, but **we especially encourage towns with an interest in pursuing our [Climate Leadership designation](#) to take part** in PURA presentations.



### Next Sustainable CT Coffee Hour: March 18, 10 a.m.

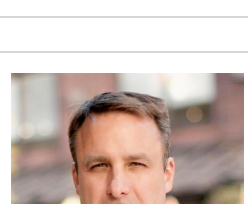
### How To Create and Run a Successful Community Match Fund Project

For our next Coffee Hour, we'll be sipping the virtual java while discussing **all things Match Fund** - how residents of registered communities can develop great project ideas that align with Sustainable CT actions, best practices in crowd-source funding, how to publicize your project to ensure the widest community involvement, and much more, with a special emphasis on **amplifier funds** that we have available in key project areas. The discussion will be led by our own Community Outreach Manager extraordinaire, **Joseph Dickerson**, so please join us for what is sure to be a fun, helpful and informative hour.

[\[REGISTER for MARCH 18\]](#)

**AND** ready your cups for an extra special **Earth Day Coffee Hour in April - Friday, April 22**. We'll be joined by **Dr. Jonathan Foley**, director of [Project Drawdown](#).

Jonathan is a world-renowned environmental scientist, sustainability expert, author, and public speaker. His work is focused on understanding our changing planet, and finding new solutions to sustain the climate, ecosystems, and natural resources on which we all depend. Make *your* Earth Day extra special and join us!



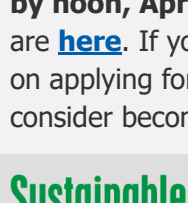
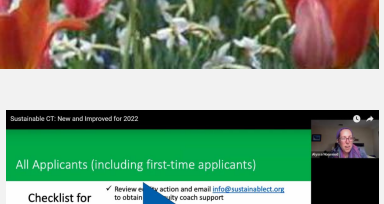
[\[REGISTER for the EARTH DAY COFFEE HOUR\]](#)

### For more fun and informative March events, check out the Sustainable CT Trainings & Events Calendar

### Good Things Happen in the Spring - Like Certification!



Spring is in the air (sort of). We're thankful for all our Connecticut towns for their ongoing work on applications for municipal certification. **Spring applications are due by noon, April 5**. Details on the spring submission process are [here](#). If you missed it, you can also view our [webinar](#) on applying for certification in 2022. And don't forget to consider becoming a [Climate Leader](#) this year!



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